Applicant : Kimura, et al.) Group Art Unit : 1637

Appl. No. : 09/771,043)

Filed : January 26, 2001)

For : IMMOBILIZED NUCLEIC ACID)

AND METHOD FOR DETECTING)

NUCLEIC ACID)

Examiner : Siew, Jeffrey)

HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of U.S. Application No. 09/771,043. In response to the Office Action mailed April 10, 2003, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the following amendments and consider the following arguments.